

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

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Mr. Andrew Sheer, President Interforce Ship Registry & Maritime Services 5200 North Federal Highway, Suite #2 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308

Dear Mr. Sheer:

Enclosed please find a Request for Information issued this date pursuant to Section 308 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318 and requires, among other things, Interforce Ship Registry & Maritime Services provide detailed information regarding vessels for which it provides services. The requirement to provide EPA with the information requested is mandatory, and you must respond in accordance with the instructions and deadlines set forth in the Request for Information.

Please contact Mr. Andrew Seligman at (215) 814-2097 if you have any questions regarding this Request for Information

Sincerely,

David B. McGuigan, Associate Director

Water Protection Division

Enclosure

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III 1650 Arch Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

In The Matter of:

Proceeding Under Section 308 of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §1318

Interforce Ship Registry & Maritime Services 5200 North Federal Highway, Suite #2 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Respondent

I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

This Request for Information is issued under the authority vested in the United States 1. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by Section 308 of the Clean Water Act (CWA or Act), 33 U.S.C. § 1318. The Administrator of the EPA has delegated this authority to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region III who in turn has delegated it to the Director of the Water Protection Division of EPA Region III who in turn has delegated it to the Associate Director of the Office of NPDES Permits and Enforcement. EPA hereby requires the Interforce Ship Registry and Maritime Services ("Respondent") or ("Interforce") to provide information described below related to compliance with the CWA.

II. STATUTORY AND REGULATORY BACKGROUND

- EPA is authorized under Section 308 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act ("Clean 2. Water Act" or "the Act"), 33 U.S.C. § 1318, to require owners and operators of point sources to establish records and make such reports as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of the Act, including but not limited to:
 - Developing or assisting in the development of any effluent limitation, or other (a) limitation, prohibition, effluent standard, pretreatment standard, or standard of performance under the Clean Water Act;
 - Determining whether any person is in violation of any such effluent limitation, or (b) other limitation, prohibition or effluent standard, pretreatment standard, or

standard of performance;

- (c) Any requirement under Section 308 of the Clean Water Act; and
- (d) Carrying out Sections 305, 311, 402, 404, and 504 of the Clean Water Act.
- 3. Any failure to respond as directed is punishable under the civil and criminal provisions of Section 309 of the Act, which provide for the assessment of penalties, injunctive relief and imprisonment.

You may, if you desire, assert a business confidentiality claim covering all or part of the information requested herein in the manner described in 40 C.F.R. Section 2.203(b). Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent and by means of the procedures set forth in Subpart B, 40 C.F.R. Part 2. If no claim of confidentiality accompanies the information requested herein when it is received by EPA, it may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice. This inquiry is not subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35. (See 5 C.F.R. § 1320.3(c)).

III. INSTRUCTIONS

- 4. Provide a separate narrative response for each question and for each subpart of each question set forth below. Precede each answer with the corresponding number of the question to which it responds.
- 5. Identify each person responding to any question contained in this Information Request on behalf of the Respondent, as well as each person consulted in the preparation of the response.
- 6. For each question, identify each document consulted, examined, or referred to in the preparation of the response or that contains information responsive to the question, and provide a true and correct copy of each such document if not provided in response to another specific question.
- 7. Indicate on each document produced in response to this Information Request, or in some other reasonable manner, the number of the question to which it corresponds.
- 8. If tabulation is requested, provide the requested information in tabular form in hard copy and also in tabular form in an electronic spreadsheet file of Excel, or ASCII delimited format.
- 9. If requested information or documents are not known or are not available at the time of

your response to this Information Request, but later become known or available, the Respondent must supplement its response to EPA. Moreover, should the Respondent find at any time after submission of its response that any portion is or becomes false, incomplete, or misrepresents the facts; the Respondent must provide EPA with a corrected response as soon as possible.

10. Section 308 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318, requires the Respondent to provide accurate and complete information in response to the questions contained in this request. All submissions provided pursuant to this Section 308 request shall be signed and dated by a responsible official of Interforce and must include the following certification:

"I certify that the information contained in or accompanying this submission is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations. I certify as having responsibility for the persons who, acting under my direct instruction, made the verification that this information is true, accurate, and complete.

Signed				
Title				
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11. Submit your response to:

Mr. Andrew Seligman (3WP42) NPDES Enforcement Branch Water Protection Division U. S. Environmental Protection Agency 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103

12. If you have questions regarding this Information Request, you may contact Mr. Andrew Seligman of the NPDES Enforcement Branch at (215) 814-2097

IV. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>

13. The terms "document" and "documents" shall mean any format that records, stores, or presents information, and includes writings, memoranda, records, or information of any kind, formal or informal, whether wholly or partially handwritten or typed, whether in computer format, memory, or storage device, or in hard copy, including any form or format of these types. If in computer format or memory, each such document shall be provided in a translated form useable and readable by EPA, with all necessary

documentation and support. All documents in hard copy should also include: (a) a copy of each document which is not an exact duplicate of a document which is provided; (b) each copy which has any writing, notation, or the like on it; c) drafts; (d) attachments to or enclosures with any document; and (e) every other document referred to or incorporated into each document.

- 14. "Day" shall mean a calendar day. In computing any period of time under this Request pursuant to Section 308, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, federal or state holiday, the period shall run until the close of the next business day.
- 15. "Vessel" shall mean every description of water craft including non-displacement craft, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water.
- 16. IMO shall mean International Maritime Organization.
- 17. IMO Number shall mean the ship identification number as defined by the Safety Of Life At Sea (SOLAS) conventions.

V. INFORMATION REQUESTED

- 18. AND NOW, this day of the Act, 33 U.S.C. Section 1318, to provide the following information for the period January 1, 2014 to present and for vessels that have made Ports of Call in the States Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and/or West Virginia, no later than 30 days from the effective date of this Request for Information:
- 19. In an electronic spread-sheet file, identify every vessel for which you provide Vessel Registration Services for vessels flagged or have a classification society under the Cook Islands. For each vessel provide:
 - a. The name of the vessel;
 - b. Year Built;
 - c. The IMO Number;
 - d. Call Sign;
 - e. Gross Tonnage
 - f. Dead Weight (If applicable)

20. For each vessel identified in Request 19, provide the dates and locations the vessel made Port in any of the States listed in Request 18.

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE

21. The effective date of this Request for Information shall be the date it is received by the Respondent.

Date: 8 10 15

David B. McGuigan, Ph.D.

Associate Director

Office of NPDES Permit & Enforcement

Water Protection Division